



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Air Resources Board

Mary D. Nichols, Chairman
9480 Telstar Avenue, Suite 4
El Monte, California 91731 www.arb.ca.gov



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

February 18, 2009

Mail-Out MSC# 09-07

TO: All Interested Parties

SUBJECT: WORKSHOP TO CONSIDER REQUIREMENTS TO REDUCE
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM NEW VEHICLES
CAUSED BY THE USE OF MOBILE AIR CONDITIONERS

The Air Resources Board (the Board or ARB) staff invites you to participate in a public workshop on March 12, 2009, in El Monte, California, to discuss draft regulations to reduce emissions from mobile air conditioners. The proposed control measure would require manufacturers to equip new vehicles with technologies that will reduce the solar heat gain of vehicles parked in the sun. This is the second workshop in the rulemaking process for this proposed climate change regulation.

The workshop will be held at the date, time, and location listed below:

DATE: Thursday, March 12, 2009
TIME: 1:00 - 4:00 PM
PLACE: Air Resources Board - Annex 3, Conference Room 100
9460 Telstar Avenue
El Monte, CA 91731

Background

Assembly Bill 32, signed into law in 2006, directs ARB to reduce California's greenhouse gas emissions from virtual all sources. Greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) are emitted when petroleum products are burned. Greater fuel consumption translates directly into greater CO₂ emissions. The use of air conditioners in motor vehicles substantially increases vehicular fuel consumption. Therefore, an obvious way to reduce the CO₂ emissions from motor vehicles is to reduce air conditioner use.

The air conditioner is typically activated when the driver starts a vehicle that has been parked in the sun. The interior of such a vehicle is often quite hot. If the interior of the vehicle were cooler, it is anticipated that many drivers would not activate their vehicle's air conditioner. Several approaches to reducing interior soak temperatures have been identified, including solar control paints and window glazing and passive or active ventilation systems.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website: <http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

ARB staff will host a workshop to discuss the current draft regulations in this area. The purpose of this workshop is to inform interested parties about the proposed action, solicit input from affected parties as to the current draft regulatory language, and gather information about the anticipated cost of the proposed regulations. The current draft regulatory language and workshop agenda will be available at the workshop and at least 10 days prior to the workshop on ARB's website at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cool-paints/cool-paints.htm> or may be requested from ARB's Emission Research and Regulatory Development Branch at (626) 575-6632.

ARB encourages you to sign up to receive email notification for this and other climate change activities at <http://www.arb.ca.gov/listserv/cc.htm>. For this specific item, select the "Cool Cars" list. To receive hard-copy notifications for this item, you must specifically request to do so. Requests can be made at the workshop, or by contacting Dr. Marijke Bekken at mbekken@arb.ca.gov or (626) 575-6684.

Additional Information

ARB staff is soliciting comments and questions from interested stakeholders before the workshop takes place. Stakeholders are also encouraged to present comments at the workshop, and in writing or by e-mail at any time. Comments or questions can be directed to Dr. Marijke Bekken at mbekken@arb.ca.gov or (626) 575-6684. Please send a copy of any comments to Ms. Sharon Lemieux, Manager, at sclermieu@arb.ca.gov. Comments may also be faxed to (626) 459-4480.

For disability-related accommodation, please contact the ADA Coordinator at (916) 323-4916 or visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/html/ada/ada.htm> for assistance. If you need assistance in a language other than English, please visit <http://www.arb.ca.gov/as/eeo/languageaccess.htm> or contact the Bilingual Coordinator at (916) 324-5049.

Sincerely,

/s/

Robert H. Cross, Chief
Mobile Source Control Division

cc: See next page

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our website:
<http://www.arb.ca.gov>.

California Environmental Protection Agency

All Interested Parties
February 18, 2009
Page 3

cc: Ms. Sharon Lemieux, Manager
Emission Research Section

Dr. Marijke Bekken
Staff Air Pollution Specialist
Emission Research Section